

DENTAL MANPOWER SHORTAGE

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1) HISTORY OF RESERVED DENTAL SEATS IN N.D.

- A) IN 1977, AVG. AGE OF DENTISTS IN N.D. WAS 59
- B) STATE IMPLEMENTED CONTRACT PROGRAM WITH 20 SEATS AT VARIOUS DENTAL SCHOOLS
- C) STUDENTS REQUIRED TO RETURN FOR 3 YEARS, OR ELSE REPAY LOAN WITH INTEREST
- D) LASTED UNTIL MID 1980'S
- E) ENDED WHEN WE HAD TOO MANY DENTISTS IN N.D.

2) CURRENT W.I.C.H.E. PROGRAM

- A) WESTERN STATES WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL QUALIFY
- B) EACH STATE DECIDES HOW MANY PLACES TO RESERVE IN EACH PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM
- C) N.D. CURRENTLY HAS ONLY 2 DENTAL SEATS ALLOCATED
- D) THOSE SEATS, IF USED, ARE GIVEN \$14,300 PER YEAR TO THEIR W.I.C.H.E. SCHOOL ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENT
- E) STUDENT IS THEN ALLOWED TO REDUCE HIS/HER TUITION ACCORDINGLY
- F) THOSE SEATS ARE **NOT** GUARANTEED AT THE PRESENT TIME
- G) THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, WHICH DOES GIVE OUR STUDENTS TUITION RECIPROCITY AT THIS TIME, IS NOT A W.I.C.H.E. SCHOOL
- H) THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT TO RETURN TO N.D.
- I) OTHER STATES DO TIE IN W.I.C.H.E. WITH RETURN OF REPAYMENT AS A LOAN
- J) MANY STUDENTS ARE NOT EVEN AWARE PROGRAM EXISTS, SO THE N.D.D.A. HAS DONE THE FOLLOWING:
 - 1) WE HAVE A DENTAL LIAISON AVAILABLE TO EVERY N.D. COLLEGE
 - 2) WE HAVE ATTENDED THE H.S. COUNSELORS CONVENTION TO SPREAD THE WORD AT THAT LEVEL
 - 3) WE HAVE HAD PRESS RELEASES TO MAKE CITIZENS AWARE OF SHORTAGE
 - 4) WE OFFER ANY INTERESTED STUDENTS PERSONAL CONTACT WITH A DENTIST FOR PURPOSES OF JOB SHADOWING, AND/OR HELP IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS
- K) WE HAD 10 STUDENTS APPLY LAST YEAR WITH ONLY 1 W.I.C.H.E. AWARD GIVEN
- L) WE HAD 15 STUDENTS APPLY THIS YEAR. AWARDS HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE

3) CURRENT DENTAL STATUS NATIONWIDE

- A) THERE IS AN IMPENDING NATIONWIDE SHORTAGE
- B) IN 1980'S WE WERE GRADUATING OVER 6,000 DENTISTS PER YEAR
- C) CURRENTLY, WE ARE GRADUATING UNDER 4,000 DENTISTS PER YEAR
- D) SEVERAL DENTAL SCHOOLS HAVE CLOSED, MANY OTHERS HAVE REDUCED THEIR CLASS SIZES DUE TO COST OF DENTAL EDUCATION
- E) COST PER YEAR TO EDUCATE A DENTAL STUDENT IS \$65,000 TO \$80,000
- F) TUITION IS ABOUT \$12,000 (STATE SCHOOLS) PER YEAR, AND \$22,000 (PRIVATE SCHOOLS) PER YEAR IN THE MIDWEST AND WEST
- G) THE DIFFERENCE MUST BE MADE UP BY LEGISLATIVE FUNDS AND/OR ALUMNI AND CORPORATE DONATIONS
- H) AS DENTAL SHORTAGE ESCALATES, STATES WITH THEIR OWN SCHOOLS ARE GOING TO BE LESS LIKELY TO ACCEPT OUT OF STATE STUDENTS SINCE THE STATE'S TAX DOLLARS ARE BEING USED TO SUBSIDIZE DENTAL EDUCATION, AND THEY WILL BE IN A SHORTAGE SITUATION, TOO
- I) PRIVATE SCHOOLS WILL BE OVERLOADED WITH APPLICATIONS BECAUSE OF THIS
- J) WE NEED TO BE PRO-ACTIVE AND INITIATE OUR NEEDS BEFORE OTHER STATES, MANY WITH MORE MONEY AND POLITICAL ACCESS, BEGIN DOING THE SAME THING

4) **WHY SHOULD WE CARE?**

- A) N.D. CURRENTLY HAS 12 COUNTIES LISTED AS FEDERAL SHORTAGE AREAS
- B) IN A RECENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE N.D.D.A., 40% OF N.D. DENTISTS WILL RETIRE IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS
- C) MANY OF OUR LARGER CITIES ARE EXPERIENCING A DENTAL SHORTAGE AT THE PRESENT TIME, INCLUDING FARGO AND JAMESTOWN

5) **WHAT SHOULD WE DO?**

- A) WE NEED TO **GUARANTEE** SPOTS IN DENTAL SCHOOLS FOR OUR STUDENTS
 - 1) SO OUR CITIZENS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE
 - 2) SO OUR QUALITY STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO DENTAL PROFESSION
- B) WE NEED TO DO THIS BEFORE THE NATIONWIDE SHORTAGE HITS AND OTHER STATES, WITH DEEPER FINANCIAL POCKETS, TAKE THOSE OPPORTUNITIES AWAY FROM OUR STUDENTS
- C) WE NEED TO DO IT IN CONJUNCTION WITH W.I.C.H.E., IT IS STILL THE BEST WAY TO FINANCE DENTAL EDUCATION
- D) WE NEED TO UP THE AVAILABLE W.I.C.H.E. SEATS TO A NUMBER THAT WILL ENSURE THE CITIZENS OF N.D. WILL HAVE ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE WITHOUT OVERLOADING THE SYSTEM, AS WE DID IN THE 1980'S
- E) THE N.D.D.A. IS RECOMMENDING INCREASING THE CURRENT 2 (NON-GUARANTEED) SPOTS AS FOLLOWS:
 - 1) 4 GUARANTEED SPOTS AT EXISTING W.I.C.H.E. CONTRACT SCHOOLS
 - 2) RETAINING THE EXISTING 2 NON-GUARANTEED SPOTS FOR N.D. STUDENTS
 - 3) REQUIRING STUDENTS WHO USE THIS PROGRAM TO RETURN TO N.D. FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF TIME OR ELSE PAY BACK THE CONTRACT, WITH INTEREST TO THE STATE, AS IN THE PAST
 - 4) THIS SHOULD ENSURE A STEADY FLOW OF NEW DENTISTS TO THE STATE OF N.D.
- F) IN AN ERA WHERE MANY COUNTIES IN N.D. ARE LOSING THEIR BEST AND BRIGHTEST GRADUATES BECAUSE THERE ARE NO JOBS AVAILABLE, THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO RETAIN THOSE GRADUATES, AND OFFER THEM EXCELLENT CAREER CHOICES RIGHT HERE IN N.D.
- G) WE MUST ACT NOW! WE NEED LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO COMPLETE THIS TASK, AND IT NEEDS TO BE DONE SOON